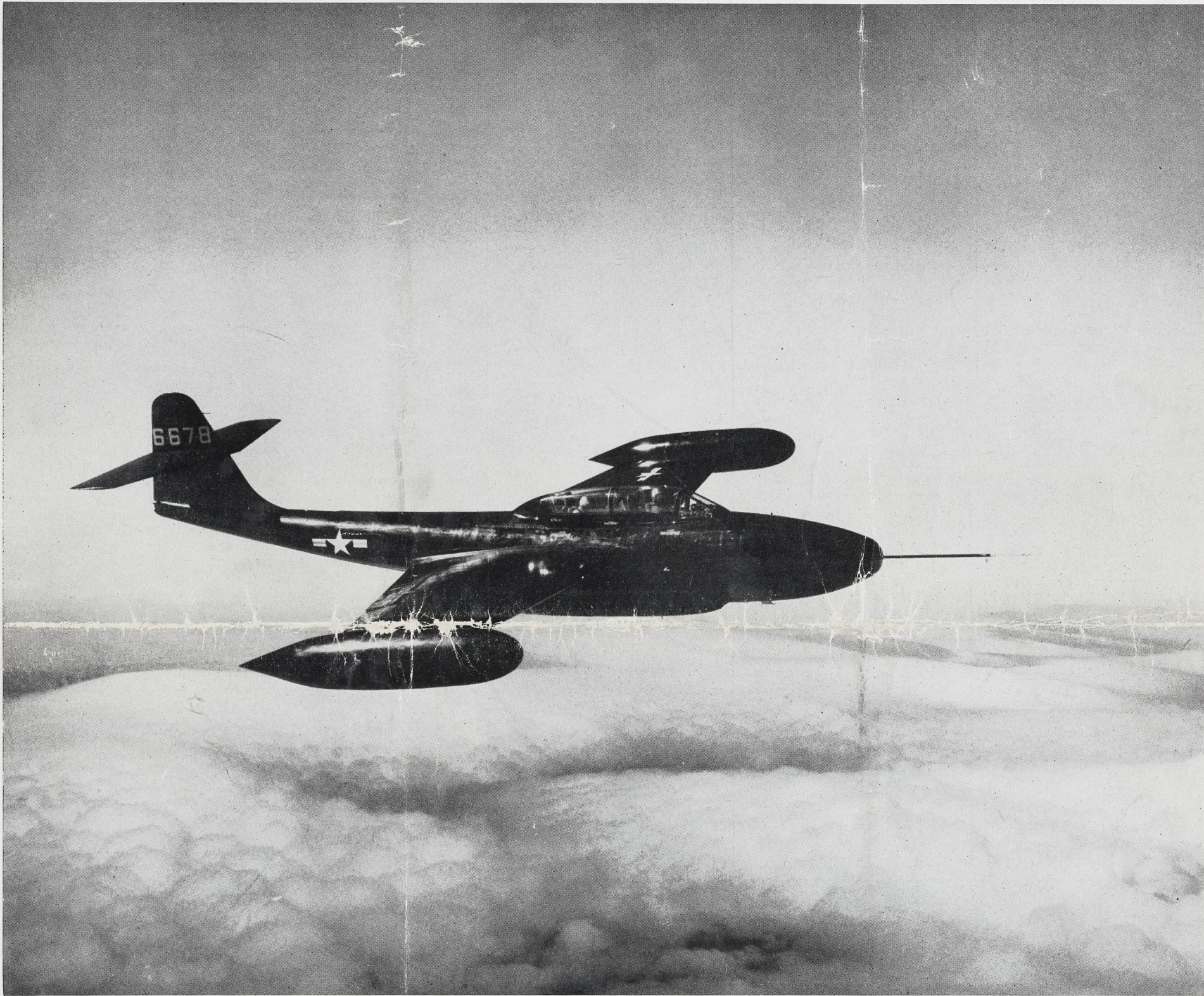


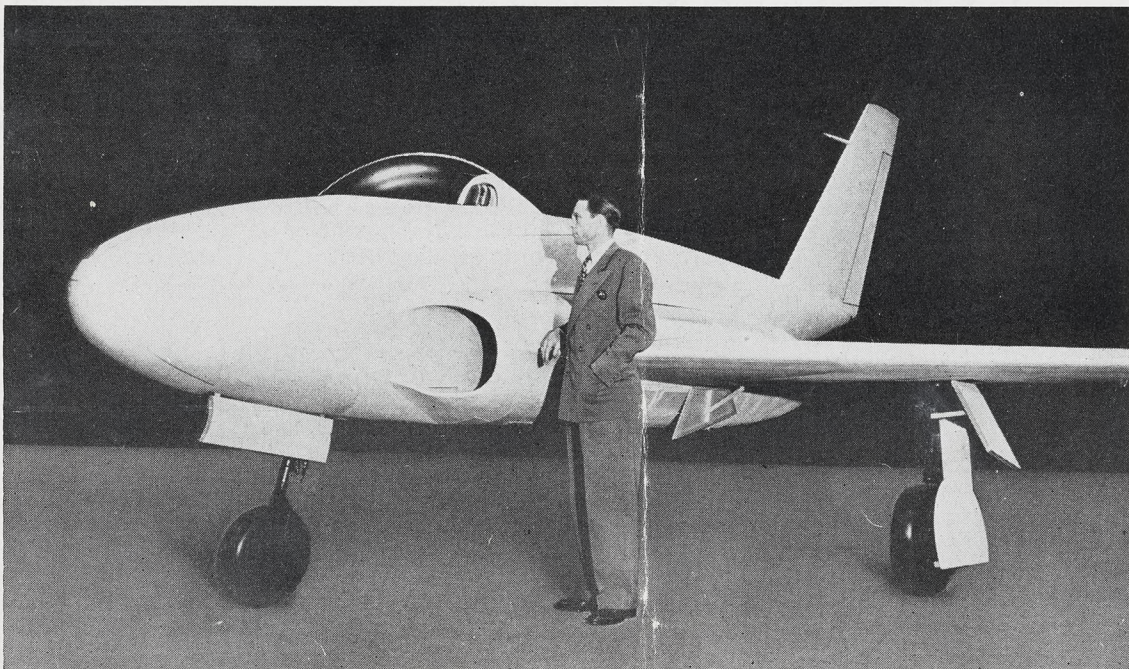
XF-89, YB-49

Northrop's new airplanes, the XF-89, jet powered all-weather fighter, and the YB-49 8-jet bomber, made first official public appearance during Air Force Day at Burbank—Saturday, September 18, 1948.

New Northrop Air Force Fighter -- XF-89



Northrop X-4 -- Sonic Zone Airplane



THIS FIRST FLIGHT PHOTO of the Northrop Air Force XF-89 shows the new all-weather fighter on test flight at Muroc Air Force Base. Equipped with eerie X-ray "eyes", the XF-89 is capable of seeking out other aircraft and ground installations by day or night in any kind of weather. Successor to Northrop's famous Black Widow F-61 night fighters, XF-89 is capable of speeds high even by today's standards. It is operated by a crew of two, pilot and radar observer, from a pressurized cockpit. Twin jet engines, nestling side by side in the lower part of the fuselage, power the glossy-black airplane. Its wafer-thin wing and horizontal stabilizer, located high up on the vertical stabilizer, hint at the speeds of which this new Northrop fighter is capable.

NORTHROP AIR FORCE'S X-4, sonic zone flying laboratory, is now being prepared for first engine and taxi tests at the Northrop plants, Hawthorne. This mock-up of the sleek-as-an-arrow research ship illustrates how Northrop's efficient low-drag Flying Wing principle has been applied to speed-of-sound research. Elevons in the trailing edge of the wing serve both as elevators and ailerons. Art Lusk, X-4 project engineer, who has directed building of the lance-shaped airplane during two years of secrecy-shrouded research, stands beside the mock-up in this photo to illustrate size.

Northrop C-125 Raiders Will Fly Six-ton Pay Load

Northrop Aircraft's 16-ton C-125 Raider assault transports, larger and heavier than World War II's most widely-used multi-engined planes, will be capable of landing at minimum weights on improvised air strips little larger than a football gridiron.

Remarkable short-field agility for heavy-duty aircraft has been provided for the Raider. They will be capable of flying a six-ton useful load of heavy ground equipment directly onto "postage stamp" battle zone landing strips. They will have the ability to land at low weight with a ground run of only 350 feet and to take off with a 500-mile fuel supply after a run of only 580 feet. Use of three engines, high-performance full-span flaps and reversible-thrust propellers provide the Raider's agility. Full-span flaps, extending practically the length of each wing, are made possible by use of retractable ailerons, introduced by Northrop on the World War II Black Widow F-61

Gen. Spaatz Chairman of CAP Board

General Carl Spaatz, who recently retired as Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, last week assumed the chairmanship of the Civil Air Patrol Board at Bolling Air Force Base, headquarters of CAP.

The Civil Air Patrol, with approximately 160,000 members in its 51 wings—one in every state and in Hawaii, Alaska, and the District of Columbia—has expanded steadily since its creation December 1, 1941. Established as an official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force in May, 1948, the CAP is a powerful liaison organization between the nation's civil and military aviation.

Northrop CAP contingent, the Seventh Group, is commanded by Norcrafter Major George T. Bechtel. Membership totals 400.

night fighters.

Intended to be operated from rough, improvised runways, the Raider is expected to replace gliders for one of the toughest of military aviation operations—airborne assault.

The Raider is provided with fixed gear, combining ruggedness with simplicity of maintenance and dependability. A unique tail wheel strut also acts as a jack to raise the rear of the plane off the ground in order that mobile equipment can be loaded and unloaded through a nine by six and one-half foot ramp door.

The Air Force has placed an initial order for 23 Raiders. Provisions have been made for installation of skis and floats on some models. Thirteen of the craft will be tested by the Air Force as assault transports, and ten will be assigned to use as arctic rescue aircraft.

The Raider will be 67 feet long, with a wing span of 87 feet. It will be powered with three Wright R-1820 engines each with a take-off rating of 1200 horsepower. The weight empty will be 19,662 pounds, and the design gross weight will be 32,500 pounds.

SELECTIVE SERVICE

In order to secure deferments, Northrop Aircraft personnel who are in draft registration brackets are advised to contact Selective Service Group in the Personnel Department, upon receipt of of Draft Board questionnaires.

It is necessary for Northrop Aircraft to file request with the local board before individual draft classification is made. Personnel will be advised and assisted in the preparation and forwarding of questionnaires to local boards.

Communications from local boards, in addition to questionnaires received, should also be brought to the attention of the Northrop Selective Service Group.

XF-89 AND X-4 ANNOUNCED

Drivers Win First Place For Safety

Northrop drivers have won highest honors for aircraft manufacturing in the recently concluded Los Angeles area Fleet Safety Contest. It has been announced by B. G. Reed, Northrop vice-president and assistant general manager.

Northrop's record for the year was: total miles operated—709,985; with accident rate per 100,000 miles at 0.56. Nearest competitor in the air industry showed an accident rate per 100,000 miles of 1.13.

The contest was the fourth of its kind held in the Southland. It was conducted July 1, 1947 through June 30, 1948 inclusive. Sponsor was the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the National Safety Council. Over-all participation in the contest was 116 Southland industrial fleets operating a total of 142,449 vehicles. Number of miles driven during the year was 257,085,501. Final analysis showed average number of accidents per 100,000 miles driven to be 6.70.

In commenting on the Northrop drivers' award winning performance, Vice-president Reed pointed out that the Northrop company-car drivers' slogan—"Courtesy equals Safety" was considered as being the largest single contributing factor for the showing made.

"Northrop drivers take this slogan literally," stated Reed. "It plus teamwork between all departments concerned—maintenance, operation, and scheduling of Northrop vehicles—was instrumental in winning the award.

The greater Los Angeles Chapter National Safety Council Fleet Contest is the largest of its kind in the world. Last year, 1946-47 period, Northrop drivers won sweepstakes award.

DETAILS OF TWO NEW NORTHROP AIRPLANES ARE REVEALED ON OCCASION OF AIR FORCE DAY

Two long-guarded Air Force secrets—a pair of high-speed mystery airplanes built by Northrop Aircraft—were made public last week at the opening of the nation-wide observance of Air Force Day.

Announcement of the two airplanes was highlighted in an address by General Muir S. Fairchild, vice-chief of staff, before San Francisco Squadron Air Force Association at San Francisco last week.

One Northrop airplane is the Air Force's blue-ribbon all-weather fighter, the new XF-89. High-speed jet equipped, and with eerie X-ray "eyes" capable of penetrating darkness, storm or fog, the XF-89 has been undergoing secret flight tests for the past few weeks at Muroc Air Force Base.

The other is the Northrop X-4, a tiny, high velocity plane intended to continue research pioneered by such sonic-zone flying laboratories as the X-1, first plane to fly faster than sound. The X-4, powered by gas turbine engines, is capable of flights of considerably longer duration than are rocket-powered planes such as the X-1.

The XF-89, which was the first-prize winner in a recent Air Force design competition for all-weather fighters, is a brawny, glossy-black twin-jet plane, fast even by current standards. It is capable of tracking down other aircraft or finding ground installations by

night or day, in any kind of weather, the Air Force announcement disclosed.

The XF-89 made its maiden flight in mid-August with Northrop Test Pilot Fred Bretcher at the controls. It since has been flown repeatedly by Bretcher and Air Force personnel.

Groomed to be successor to Northrop's night piercing Black Widow of World War II fame, the XF-89 is slightly smaller but heavier than the Black Widow. Its two jet engines nestle side by side in the under part of the fuselage.

The XF-89 has a wing span of approximately 50 feet. It is approximately 50 feet long and 15 feet high. The design gross weight is over 30,000 pounds.

The X-4 is nearing completion at the Hawthorne factory with engine and taxi tests pending. It is designed for sustained "duels" with the sonic barrier in order to extend knowledge of the aerodynamic maelstrom ever present at the threshold of the sound speed band. The Air Force describes the X-4 as "designed for stability and control investigations on swept-wing aircraft of the semi-tailless type for flight at high speeds."

It literally is a sinewy little flying research center intended to place a pilot and elaborate instruments in the "trouble zone" of sonic flight and keep them there long enough to find out a great deal more than is now known about this weird barrier to man's conquest of the air.

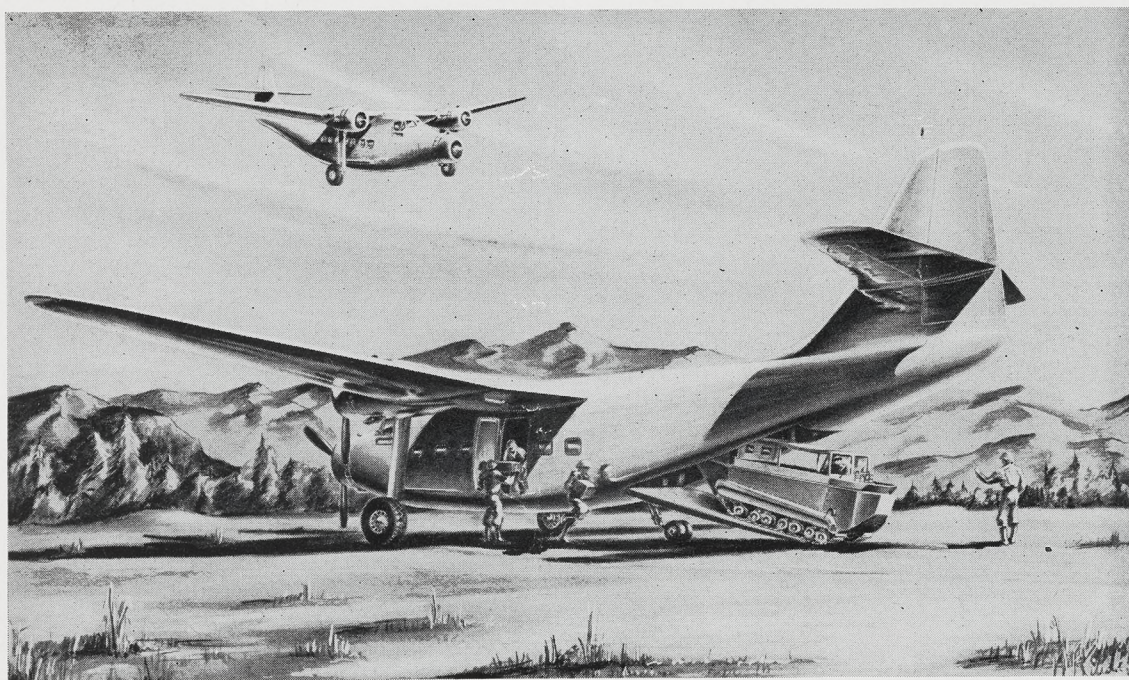
The miniature flying laboratory contains National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics stability and control instrumentation.

Naval Training Center



CLAUDE N. MONSON, Northrop vice-president and general manager, left, attending dedication ceremonies of Hawthorne's new civic center Naval training center, discusses part Naval Reserve training and facilities will play in Hawthorne youth welfare program, with, from left, Admiral B. H. Bieri, commandant of the 11th Naval District; Hawthorne's Mayor Harold E. Crozier, and Lieutenant Lloyd Taber, commandant of the center in Hawthorne, Calif.

Northrop Assault Transport C-125



ANOTHER NEW NORTHROP AIRPLANE.—Artist's conception of the Northrop Raider C-125 assault transport shows for the first time details of its unique loading mechanism. Huge drop door, large enough to admit vehicles up to nine feet wide and six and one-half feet high, is contained in tail. Use of reversible thrust propellers shortens the landing run to 330 feet. Full-span flaps on the Raider are made possible by retractable ailerons, first introduced by Northrop on the famous Black Widow F-61, night fighters. The Raider was developed from the prototype Northrop N23 Pioneer which was built, test flown, and successfully proven, at Northrop Field, Hawthorne, Calif., during past eighteen months.



Northrop News

Vol. 7 Northrop Field, Hawthorne, Calif. No. 10

Published every other Wednesday by
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DIVISION, NORTHROP AIRCRAFT, INC.
JOHN B. CLARK, Director

CHARLES BRADFORD, Editor

A publication by and for the men and women of Northrop.
Permission to republish material with credit to the Northrop News will be granted.
* T.M. Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

N. R. C. Good Time Table

For enrollment or further information on activities listed below, Plant One Norcrafters may call or contact Personnel Activities Office, station 637, Plant One Plaza; at Crenshaw—call or contact Personnel Activities, station 985, Industrial Relations Office.

ART CLUB

Paul Nelson, commissioner
Professional models pose for drawing and painting Wednesday, 7:00-10:00 p.m., Studio, 3511 W. Hyde Park Blvd.

BADMINTON

Ed Sellon, commissioner
Meet Thursday evenings, 7:00-10:00 p.m., Dorsey High Gym.

BASKETBALL

Leuzinger Courts available for practice starting Tuesday, September 21, and every Tuesday and Wednesday until October 13. Reserve gym at Personnel Activities. Team entries for Inter-Department League must be in Personnel Activities by Friday, October 1.

BOWLING (DAYS)

Elmer Lohry, commissioner
Five man Handicap League bowls at Inglewood Sports Center, Tuesdays. Five man Handicap League at Hawthorne Bowl on Fridays at 7:00 p.m. Mixed Foursome at Inglewood Sports Center starts Friday, September 24.

BOWLING (NIGHTS)

James Dobbs, commissioner
Five man Handicap League starts Friday, September 24, 1:30 a.m. (immediately after work Thursday night), at Inglewood Sports Center.

BRIDGE CLUB

A. S. Bowser, commissioner
The Fourth Eight Weeks Duplicate Bridge Pairs Tournament will commence on Wednesday night, September 22, at VFW Hall, 417 W. 131st Street, Hawthorne, at 7:30 p.m.

CAMERA CLUB (DAYS)

John McCue, commissioner
Next meeting to be Friday, September 24, 8:00 p.m., at Clubhouse, 3511 Hyde Park Blvd. (2 1/2 blocks West of Crenshaw). Program to include color slide competition.

CHESS CLUB

Meets with the Bridge Club on Wednesday night, 7:30 p.m., VFW Auxiliary Hall, 417 W. 131st Street.

CIVIL AIR PATROL

A. H. Anderson, representative
Meet Tuesday nights, VFW Hall, 417 W. 131st Street, Hawthorne. Squadron, 7:30 p.m.; group, 8:15 p.m.

FLYING CLUB

Ralph Bent, representative
Memberships available. For further information call Personnel Activities, extension 637. Schedule all flight time at Torrance Airport through Cliff Bantel—phone FRontier 6576.

GLIDER CLUB

Gordon Blaisdell, representative
Meets Monday evening, 8:15 p.m., Plant One Cafeteria. All invited.

GOLF CLUB (DAYS)

Ash Dunning, commissioner
Final rounds of All Northrop Annual Golf Tournament now being played.

GUN CLUB

William LeMaster, commissioner
First NRC Pistol Shooting Contest now on at Hawthorne Police Range, 141st Street and Prairie. A .22 calibre rifle shooting match is being scheduled. Register at Personnel Activities.

ICE SKATING

Jeannine Voigt, commis. (acting)
Skating at Iceland, Jackson and California Streets, Hynes, Wednesdays, 8:00-10:45 p.m. All Norcrafters and families invited.

NUMISMATIC (Coin) CLUB

Next meeting to be Monday, October 4, 7:30 p.m., Crenshaw Cafeteria.

PHILATELIC CLUB

Nathan Kates, commissioner
Next meeting to be held on Monday, October 4, 7:30 p.m., Crenshaw Cafeteria. All Norcrafters interested in this hobby are invited to attend.

RIDING CLUB

Delbert Bradford, commissioner
Next ride to be Saturday, September 25, 7:30 a.m. from Red's Riding Stable. On Thursday, October 7, there will be a two hour ride from Circle Bar, 5543 E. Imperial, followed by a special meeting to decide upon uniforms.

SEA SCOUTS

George Metzger, commissioner
Meet Wednesday night, N.R.C. Field, Boxing Ring, 7:00 p.m.

SKI CLUB

Dick Dodd, commissioner
Second Ski Club Work Party and Picnic to be Sunday, September 26, starting at 10:00 a.m. Meet at parking area 200 yards East of Mt. Waterman Chair Lift—Angeles Crest Highway, 33 miles from Foothill Blvd., intersection.

SOFTBALL

George Pesner, commissioner
NRC Annual Open "Black Bat" Softball Tournament games being played daily after work on NRC Field.

THEATRE TICKETS

Tickets to all stellar attractions available at Personnel Activities through Mutual Ticket Agency branch office.

TRAVEL SERVICE

Reservations, resorts, travel, tour maps available at Personnel Activities.

SPORTS

The Northrop News

Day-Night Champs Play For Crown

Department 11, last year's NRC champs, took a big step toward winning another leg on the perpetual Trophy when they defeated the National League champs, Department 3. Winning two games, 8-3 and 9-2, they became the Day Shift champions and must now meet the fast Night Shift champs, Department 26, and defeat them in order to keep the pennant in the Jig Shop.

Picked as the two teams to represent Northrop in the Annual Western Industrial Recreation Association's tournament, held at North American Aviation's recreation field, the American and National League champs, Department 11 and Department 3, played their first game last Monday evening against two fast NAA teams. In a well played fast game, Department 3 lost to NAA No. 1 by a score of 3-1. It was a hard game for chucker Ted Carroll to lose. After holding the opposition to one safe hit until the last inning, and leading 1-0, he was nicked for three consecutive doubles and a single that scored 3 runs and iced the game for North American. Department 3 had men on bases practically every inning but due to the fine defensive work of NAA, they were unable to push them around. Chet Donaldson took over the reins of Department 3 in the absence of Pete Anderson and had the boys hustling. In one of the best pitched and closest games of the season, Northrop's Department 11 nine downed North American's best, No. 58, by a score of 1-0. Nick Pappas, Department 11's stellar moundman, had the North Americans eating out of his hand. He allowed but one hit, a double in the fourth, and struck out 12 men. Only once during the game did a runner get as far as third base. Going into the last inning, with the score deadlocked at 0-0, Walt Osterberg, one of the long line of Northrop Osterbergs, stepped up to the plate and poled the first pitch out of the lot for a home run. Last year, Department 11 came within one game of winning the WIRA tournament when they lost the tournament's final game to the fast Lockheed aggregation, 2-1.

SKIERS AGAIN TO MT. WATERMAN

In high impatient anticipation of winter snows to come, the NRC Ski Club, under direction of Commissioner Dick Dodd, will hold their second ski-tow installation outing next Sunday, September 26. The group will meet at 10:00 a.m. on the north side of Angeles Crest Highway, 200 yards past Mt. Waterman chair lift—thirty-three miles total from Foothill Boulevard.

Dodd advises that slope conditioning operations will be the order of the day. Some construction of facilities also remains to be done.



NORTHROP CEREMONY

William "Buck" Niemann, Cost Accounting, and Helen Self, secretary to General Manager Claude N. Monson, on Saturday, September 4, 1948, became Mr. and Mrs. Niemann via exchange of love, honor and cherish vows. Marriage took place at Santa Barbara. The young couple are making their home in Los Angeles. Best wishes from Hitching Post for Mr. and Mrs. Niemann.

WEDDING BELLS

Wedding bells will soon ring out for Barbara Moore and Lynn Bly of Engineering. Sacred vow ceremonies will take place at the First Methodist Church, Inglewood, on October 15, 1948, 8:00 p.m. Hitching Post extends the very best to Mr. and soon-to-be Mrs. Moore.

Sea Scouts Christen New Boat at Sunday Ceremony

The NRC Sea Scout group assembled at Sam's Sea Food Dock, east of Seal Beach on the Pacific Coast highway, Sunday afternoon, September 12, 2:00 p.m., to officially christen their new 36-foot Navy LCPL. One hundred well-wishers were on hand to watch the ceremonies.

Mrs. George Metzger, wife of NRC Sea Scout Skipper and Commissioner, George Metzger, officiated as sponsor. After being introduced by Northrop Director of Industrial Relations, John B. Clark, to the assembled crowd, she took a firm grip on the sponsoring where-with-all, a gaily decorated bottle of champagne, and broke it expertly over the bow of the good ship SSS Seagull.

Champagne was a good-luck

gift from Jack Billings, California Vintners Association.

The boat was completely "dressed" for the occasion with international code flags flying from bow to stern. The Sea Scouts and officers were out in their best "bib and tucker."

Introductions, presided over by Skipper George Metzger, presented Sea Scout committeemen, Jim Celoni, NRC Sea Scout Finance; Curly Gouker, Sponsor's Representative; Charles Bradford, Public Relations; John B. Clark, Ways and Means; Paul Jones, Jr., Advisory, and Joe Dundas, Camping and Outdoor. Sea Scout officials also introduced were Commodore Van Wig, Los Angeles Area Counsel, BSA; and James Scott, executive Centinela District, BSA. Also introduced were Sam Arvenitas and George Arvenitas who generously provide docking facilities for the Seagull and other Southland scouting boats.

The Sea Scouts' public, including a goodly number of Northrop juniors, then had their innings. One and all went aboard to see how the new ship looked from the inside.

Guest cruises were next. The Seagull, assisted by companion Sea Scout ships, Lion and Marblehead, Los Angeles Area craft, made four cruises down and up Los Alimitos channel.

NIGHT GOLFERS COMPLETE PLAY

NRC Night Shift golfers wound up their Fox Hills tourney last week with Commissioner Bill Levins and Ernie Underwood occupying totem pole top spot. Next in line were John Thacker and Bill Wible. Paul Luebe and Elmer Simmons garnered third place.

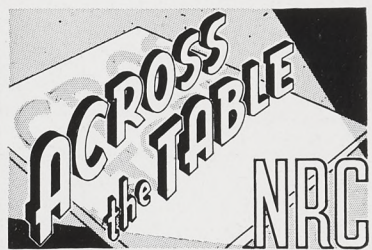
Season low net for the Night Shift golfers was registered by John Thacker; Ross Rogers, second; Paul Luebe, third.



BRIDGE CLUB PRIZE WINNERS POSE PROUDLY— End of recent NRC Bridge Club 8-week tournament found Bud Bowser, left, Club commissioner, welcoming to winners' circle with NRC prizes, Herb Lawrence, first, bridge table; Mrs. Bud Bowser, second, "Kem" playing cards; and Roy Fox, third, "Congress" playing cards. All Hail the Champions!



PORTION OF BRIDGE CLUB MEMBERS, photo'd on evening of tourney prize awards at Bridge Club clubhouse, VFW Hall, 417 W. 131st Street, Hawthorne, California, shows various and sundry grand slams in the making. Players, starting from table in foreground, from left, clockwise: Hugh Thompson, Herb Lawrence, Peg Thompson, and Roy Fox. Middle table, left: Ned Martin, "Breezie" Darby, Mrs. Darby, and Walt Darby. Rear table, left, Dick Sprague, Harve Ellsworth, Connie Sprague, and Marilyn Ellsworth. Middle table, right, Bud Bowser, Club commissioner; Lew Simon, Frances Bowser, and Lee Simon. Rear table, right, are: Eldred Foster, Harold Sarkissien, Dave Halsey and Martin Sarkissien.



By Jim Celoni, President, Northrop Recreation Club

Club officers, commissioners, and representatives join me in bidding a fond farewell to our resigning Secretary Opal Doubleday. — Opal was elected unanimously to the Club recorder position for 1948. Previously, for many pleasant years, she was Club representative from the Turbodyne Corporation.

Jim Celoni

She and hubby Russ, also of the Turbodyners, are "expecting" in the near future. Stork Club will tell all. She did a better than swell job while in office—is dependability personified. Her charming presence will be missed at the meetings.

The Central Coastal District deer season is now over—having closed September 15, with a better than average take on the part of California's nimrods. The inland portions of the state are now open. This means that High Sierras, Northern California, portions of Riverside and other Southland counties, are now being visited by Norcrafter hunters in search of the wily venison to be.

Day Shift bowlers needed! Elmer Lohry, commissioner of the keggers for days, issues the call. Teams are needed for five-man handicap league at Hawthorne—also for mixed foursome league at Inglewood. Both tournaments get underway Friday night, September 24. Time will be—Hawthorne: 7:00 p.m.—Inglewood: 6:15 p.m. Hear ye! Hear ye!

Engineering Norcrafter Chet V. Dolan welcomes one and all from Crenshaw to Prairie to his newly opened Diction and Vocabulary courses at Inglewood and Redondo Beach High Schools. If you would like to eliminate your nuance-nuisances, unsplit your infinitives, accent the proper positive syllables—you may do so at Chet's classes, held one night each week at each school. Time—7:00 p.m. Classes began September 16 in Inglewood; September 21 in Redondo.

THE *Northrop Scene* BY DAY AND NIGHT

Northrop NRC Picnic Pictorial



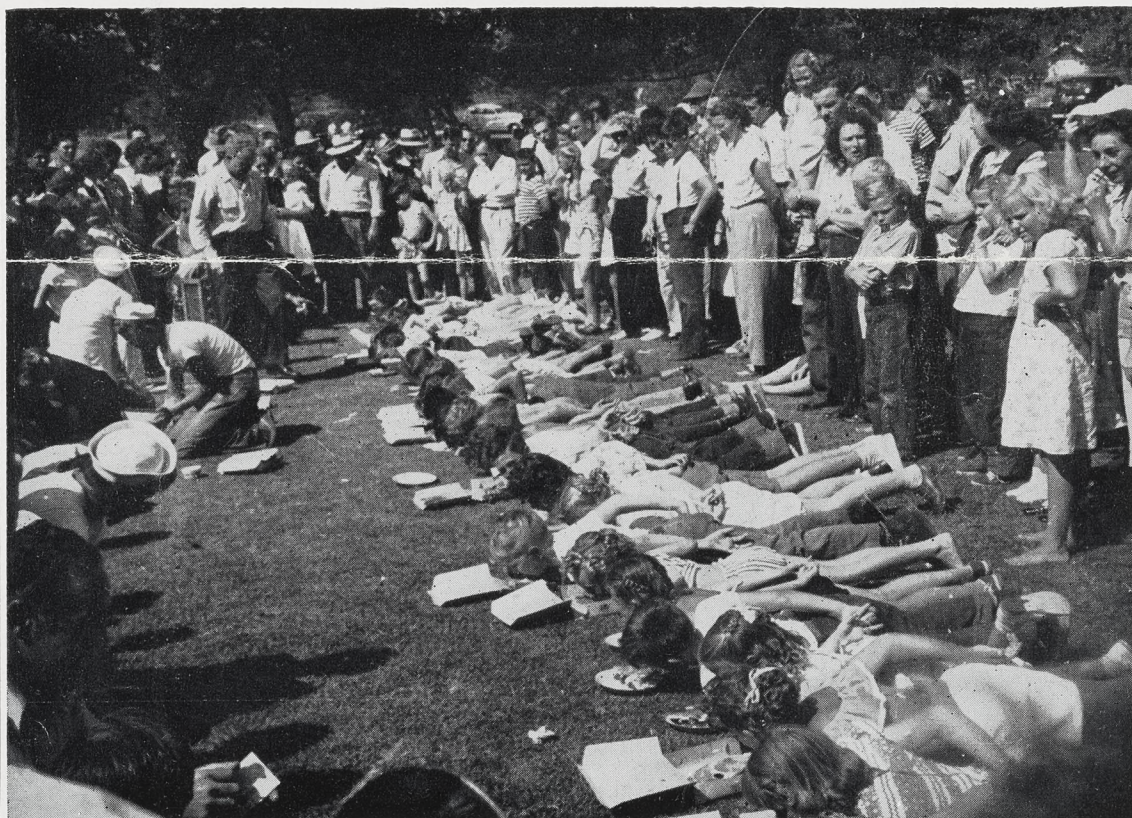
LONGEST MARRIED couple's honors, NRC prize of dinner and show, went to Mr. and Mrs. Orwig Carr, Department 11. Above, they receive plaudits from crowd, including hearty congratulations from Northrop Vice-president and General Manager Claude N. Monson, center. At left, NRC President Jim Celoni issues couple's gift and Club best wishes.



NRC GUN CLUB shooting gallery drew full capacity crowd at picnic. Here, Bill "Pistol Pete" Le Master, commissioner, demonstrates to Northrop juniors steady aim.

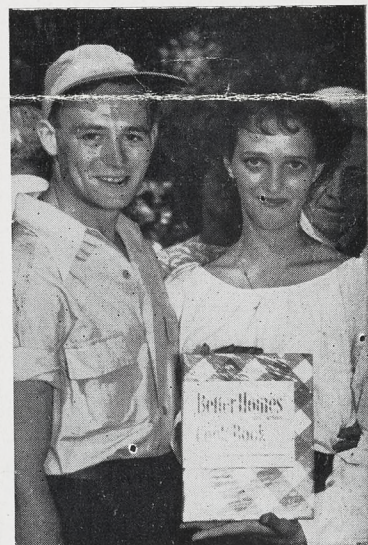


MAX BASEY AT MIKE—Max was chairman of the children's games committee and as such was the busiest man at Griffith Park's Crystal Springs area for the day. Above, in true professional style, he issues games call.



THE PRIZE WINNING snapshot contest photo, taken by Wally Kuegeman, Wood Shop. Subject was a hysterical, hilarious pie-eating contest. As a result, he wins the brand new NRC bicycle. News photo will soon show Kuegeman youngster, Belinda Lou, in action aboard this highlight picnic prize of the day. A photo-finish race—Kuegeman the winner!

HORSE AND RIDER contest found Norcrafter dads and juniors contesting for top honors—was won by George Forbes and son team. George is Payroll Dept. Norcrafter.



MOST RECENTLY married couple honors were granted Mr. and Mrs. Bill Green, Department 36. They received NRC gift of cook book and cash. The Greens exchanged vows on August 20, 1948—nine days before the picnic.



← 33 55 →
DRY LAND FISH BOWL—Hal Hathorne, Fishing Club commissioner, is genial host.



LARGEST FAMILY PRESENT at the NRC picnic was that of John Martin Harris, Department 18. Harris family seen at right with Prexy Celoni.



←
CHAMP RIVET GUESSER, Mrs. Robert W. Feeny. Prexy Celoni presents portable radio; hubby Bob Feeny, right.

RIVET GUESSING LINE was long—Here, Elmer Lohry, Day Shift Bowling commissioner, right, greets guessers. Personnel Manager Dave Stadler, at left, among others, tries psychic powers on jar.

